Import of Seeds

1899. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 536 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th December, 1989 and state:

(a) the quantity of seed allowed for import by the companies/ individuals and import permit issued, partywise;

(b) the quantity of seed imported by the companies as per the latest information with the Directorate of Plant Protection; and

(c) what are the norms laid down by the Directorate of Plant Protection for issuing of import permit and deciding factors of quantity allowed to be imported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) The names of the parties to whom the import permits have been granted for the import of seeds from 1-10-1988 to 15-5-1990 and the quantities imported by them during the same period is at annexure I & II. [*See* Appendix CLIV, Annexure No. 91] respectively.

(c) The norms and criteria followed by the Plant Protection Advisor to the Government of India is laid down in the New Policy on Seed Development, the Plants, Fruits & Seeds (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 1989 and the Plant Quarantine Manual 1989.

The recommendations of the Department of Forests & Environment in case of forest seeds, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation in case of seeds of coarse cereals, pulses and oilseeds, registration with National Seeds Corporation or Director of Agriculture/ Horticulture of the State Governments in case of vegetable/flower seeds or cuttings/saplings, as the case may be, are required for issuance of the import permit.

Another deciding factor of quantity allowed to be imported is the consideration of handling capacity of the particular plant quarantine station at the port of entry.

1900. [*Transferred to the* 30th *May*, 1990]

Supersession of Sr. Grade/Junior Administrative Officers in Railways

1901. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that consequent upon adoption of assessment system followed in the Indian Railways, mass supersession of Senior grade/Junior Administrative Officer is being done to the extent of supersession of officers upto 35 positions; and

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that this has caused demoralisation among Railway bureaucracy and has resulted in inefficiency and safety hazards on Indian Railways?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH) : (a) There have been no mass supersessions in promotions to Administrative Grades. However, in keeping with the policies laid down by the Government, some supersessions take place in promotion to Administrative Grades, based on the assessment of performance of officers.

(b) No, Sir.